

Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council

Serving the Communities of:

Auburn City
North Auburn
Newcastle
Penryn
Ophir
Bowman



Minutes

Date: June 21, 2019

Time: Called to order at 9:00 am

Location: City of Auburn, City Hall
1225 Lincoln Way, Room #10
Auburn CA. 95603

1. Call to Order:

Attendance: Kevin Hanley, Danielle Hardesty, Frank Udvarhely, Kathy Baxter, Keri Askew Bailey, and Bob Snyder. Absent: Daniel Berlant. Guests: Chief Dave Spencer, Heidi Rietjens, Art Berliner, Maury Mendoza, Marvin Curry, Susan Rushton, John Hutchings, Ryan Bellanco, Thomas Granat, Ralph Franzen, Jon Anacker, Scott Eckardt, Joyce Prunty, Michele Calbi, Jane Wurst, Sharon Piello, Deline Ruud, Bart Ruud.

2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** The 5/17/19 minutes were approved.

4. Public Comment:

Kevin thanked Fire Chief Spencer for excellent town hall on Tuesday night. Jane Wurst and Bart Ruud (Protect Rural Placer) expressed opposition to proposed expansion of Hidden Falls. Noted public safety, fire risk, negative impact on cattle ranching should take precedence over more trails. Urged a moratorium on all new trails in wildland interface areas. Kevin reiterated the previous agreement by GAAFSC to consider taking a position on the proposed Hidden Falls expansion once an update EIR is completed.

5. Strategic Plan Implementation:

City of Auburn WUI Strategic Plan 2019. Fire Chief Spencer explained the five areas of the plan the plan – engineering, enforcement, education, emergency response, and economic incentives. The biggest element of the plan is public and property owner education. In budget process, he requested 7 new positions w/in the Fire Department to execute the strategic plan. The plan will be on the City's web site along with measurables so the public can see progress. Questions and discussion followed.

City of Auburn GAAFSC member Recommendation. – GAAFSC members recommended Richard Hadley to be appointed by the Auburn City Council.

Appointments to Model Local Government Policies & Ordinances. Kevin will lead. Bob, Kathy, Keri volunteered to serve on the committee.

Newcastle Firewise Public Forum. Several Newcastle residents agreed to follow-up on getting the 35 persons who signed up at the Public Forum into new or existing Firewise Communities.

6. Agency and Stakeholder Reports:

- a. Auburn Fire. Chief Spencer said nothing further to report.
- b. Penryn Fire – no report.
- c. Newcastle Fire – no report.

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- d. Placer Co – no report.
 - e. US BOR. John presented. Last Wed site visit at shaded fuel break area involved multiagency team. Objective was to look for areas we can improve and update prescription used to construct. They want to modify it to address some geographical, topographical, wind, fuel load. Likely will result in more consistency with the North Fork plan.
 - f. State Parks. Marvin said CCC is working on a clearing project in Colfax. Flow rates are still high in river and three unrecovered bodies still there. All campfires will be banned beginning July 1, even in campgrounds.
 - g. Fire Alliance & Firewise. Kevin said that he attended the Placer Fire Alliance meeting and said that he learned that Placer OES is re-doing the Fire Alliance web site and our FSC will have its own page. The California Fire Safe Council is also working on giving each local council a page on their web site.

7. Roundtable: Kevin suggested that GAAFSC consider on a future agenda whether to submit a budget request to the City of Auburn and Placer County to fund education efforts.

8. Adjourn: 10:15 am.